

From: alta
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:01pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Department of Justice:

During my 25-year span as a computer professional, I have watched Microsoft grow. I continue to be appalled that Microsoft has been able to sell unreliable, defective products using the following practices:

- Advertising non-existent products to kill legitimate competition.
- Buying companies in order to kill them
- Forcing large distributors to install Microsoft, only.
- Covering defective product internals with glitter and gold.
- Licenses that give them immunity to damage from defective products.
- Large campaign contributions to buy protection from government.

The result has been:

- Many innovative companies have been destroyed.
- The world-dominant operating system (Windows) is defective,
- Users have come to expect that software crashes are normal.
- Due to licensing practices allowed in our (and other) countries, Microsoft is the only business of its size that is unaccountable for damages due to defects in its products.
- Windows is a serious threat to national security and to businesses.
- Now under investigation, they STILL continue these practices.
- Even the US government seems unable to touch this monopoly.

I ask that you do what needs to be done with Microsoft. Please protect our national security, and give technological users and innovators a chance.

Thank you for considering my view.

Sincerely,

Reed I. White
ALTA RESEARCH